

# Yields of Pistachio Increased with Boron Application

- Recent research results in California have shown that foliar applications of *Solubor*<sup>®</sup> or *Solubor*<sup>®</sup> DF have increased pistachio yields.
- The best time for foliar application is from the late dormant to the early bud stages.
- Soil applications of boron are not as effective as foliar applications in supplying sufficient boron for flowering.

Brown, Ferguson, and Picchioni worked with 1,000 pistachio trees in California over a 4-year period to investigate the role of boron (B) nutrition and review current B recommendations. Cumulative 3-year yields of pistachio per tree from foliar and soil-applied B are given in the table shown here. Their results show greater yields were definitely obtained with foliar application of *Solubor*. The best application rate shown in this research was 5 pounds of *Solubor* in 100 gallons of water. The best time to use a foliar application was from the late dormant to early bud stages of development.

Soil-applied B at 2 to 8 ounces per tree affected yields sometimes. Soil-applied B results were not as consistent, nor as dependable as a foliar application.

Pistachio yield was only one measurement that Brown, Ferguson and Picchioni made on trees. They documented several influences of foliar-applied B at the critical late dormant to early bud stages. Boron increased pollen viability, fruit set, and leaf B concentrations, but decreased blanking percentage. All of these measurements lend support to applying 5 pounds of *Solubor*/100 gallons of water per tree at the right time.

Three-Year Cumulative Yields of Pistachio from Boron Applications			
Foliar Application, lbs. <i>Solubor</i> /100 gal. water	Pistachio Yield, lbs. per tree	Soil Application oz./tree	Pistachio Yield, lbs. per tree
0	100	2	100
2	107	4	101
5	122	6	99
10	106	8	105

Adapted From: Fluid Digest Vol. 3 (Winter 1997) Page 2.

For more information:

Call US Borax at  
1 (800) 699 9005

Access our Fax on Demand  
System at 1 (800) 472 9768

Visit our website at  
[www.borax.com/agriculture](http://www.borax.com/agriculture)

